

## Foggy Bottom News

April 2002

Published by the citizens of Foggy Bottom and the West End

Volume 44, No. 6

## Parkland Controversy Continues

## Needed: Correcting the Flaws

By Ed Mulrenin

Thank you for giving visibility to the matter of the 27th Street staging area for the Georgetown utility repair project. Before that matter disappears, let me provide you with two things.

First, I sent off to Mr. Dan Tangherlini of the Division of Transportation thanking him for honoring his commitment to move the staging area. While it is not completely gone and the problems continue, it is clear that they are moving the site away from a residential area.

Second, so all the facts do not get buried, let me explain some things I uncovered that were not reported anywhere. As you know already, there was not only no public notice of the takeover of the parkland in question, but there was absolutely no involvement in the negotiations for the project of the neighborhood in whose backyard the staging area was dumped. Moreover, the appropriation of that parkland for anything other than "park use" was in direct violation of the terms and conditions executed on July 18, 2001, for the future use of that park. District officials, by the way, continue to dismiss that document as if it does not exist, which it does because we have seen it.

Flaws, to page 6

## Jack Evans Reports on 27th & K

I'm happy to report that the construction equipment has been moved out of the 27th Street Park. Residents, my staff and I have worked since 1999 to protect from development and preserve this area as a park. The equipment was transferred to land owned by the National Park Service on the Georgetown Waterfront on March 1.

There was a huge outcry from Foggy Bottom residents when the park was turned into a staging area for the project to repair the utilities on Wisconsin Avenue and M Street. Readers of the Foggy Bottom News know the D.C. government consulted neither the Foggy Bottom/West End ANC nor the Foggy Bottom Association before putting the equipment on the parkland.

Residents were outraged and rightly so. In response to citizen outcry, I worked with District staff to relocate the staging area by the end of December. Despite the best efforts of the D.C. Division of Transportation (DDOT), that date came and went, as did several other dates.

In response to this growing delay, DDOT Acting Director Dan Tangherlini asked me to contact the Georgetown Waterfront Commission to discuss relocating the staging area to waterfront areas previously used in the same capac-

Evans, to page 7



## Popular Pastor Is Transferred

#### Father Cary Hill Returns

On April 5, the pastor of St. Stephen Martyr Church, Rev. Msgr. Kenneth W. Roeltgen, will become the pastor of the Church of the Annunciation located on Massachusetts Avenue. In addition to his pastoral duties for a large and active congregation, he will oversee a large Catholic school which is a part of the parish complex.

He will be succeeded by Rev. Robert C. [Cary] Hill, who knows Foggy Bottom well from his 1975-1982 service as chaplain of the Newman Center at GWU. He has been serving and will continue to serve as Archdiocesan Secretary for the Clergy.

Father Ken, as he calls himself, came to St. Stephen's almost five years ago and has

Pastor, to page 5

# Inside this issue . . . Page DOT Director to Speak . . . 3 FB/WE Demographics . . . 8 Holy Week/Easter Plans . . . 5 FB/WB Home Sales . . . . . 7 PSA Voicemails Set . . . . . 2 Memories of Edna Noland . 4

## Court Finds for Hospital in FBA v. BZA Case

by Jim McLeod

On February 14, 2002, fifteen months after oral arguments in Foggy Bottom Association v. D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment, the D.C. Court of Appeals issued an opinion regarding the new building adjacent to the Foggy Bottom Metro station. In rejecting arguments by the FBA based on environmental, pedestrian safety and quality of life concerns, the court's decision freed the District Hospital Partnerships, L.P., to make the building the new home of the George Washington University Hospital.

In August 1999, the FBA petitioned the Court of Appeals to review the 3-to-1 decision of the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) to grant a special exception to build a 400,000-square-foot hospital on the residentially-zoned site at 900 23rd Street NW. BZA Vice Chairperson Betty King dissented from the Board's decision "because [she could not] in good conscience say that the project will have no deleterious impact on the neighborhood and surrounding properties."

The court noted the FBA had three arguments. First, that the BZA erred in granting the special exception for the proposed hospital before any agency determined whether there was a need for an environmental impact statement (EIS). Second, that the conditions attached to the BZA's approval of the special exception do not satisfy the substantial evidence test applied to agency decisions. Third, that the BZA did not give "great weight" to the Advisory Neighborhood Commission's (ANC's) views.

Court, to page 6

## FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION MEETING

All Residents Welcome

**Guest Speaker:** 

## Dan Tangherlini

Acting Director D.C. Division of Transportation

Monday, March 25, 2002 The Melrose Hotel 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. 7:30 p.m.

(Next meeting: Monday, April 29, 2002)

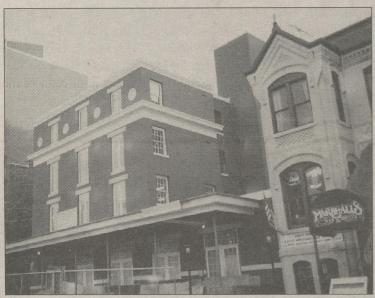
#### Latter Day Saints To Open Facility

On Saturday, April 12, an open house for the community is scheduled at the new facility which will house religious and administrative functions for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons). The building, at 2520 L Street, has been undergoing renovations for some time, and will house several functions for the church. The event is tentatively scheduled for 7:00-9:00 p.m.

On the first floor is a meeting room/chapel, large enough to hold up to 150 persons for services or meetings and conferences. It also has a small kitchen and reception room. A second floor is devoted to classrooms and various offices, including international and government affairs, public relations, and education.

The third and fourth floors will house approximately 40 students from Brigham Young University for three-month stays. The first students will arrive in April, and will participate in the church's "Washington Seminar," to learn "how D.C. works" and enjoy the Nation's Capital.

Scott Dunaway is the director of the Washington Seminar program, and Assistant Dean, College of Family, Home and Social Science at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah; Lamar Sleight heads the international and government relations function; and Randy Daybell is in charge of the educational programs. Gordon Danes was project manager, and Eric Cox has been in charge of the reconstruction of the building and is well known to many of the center's neighbors.



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#### Thalia Johnson Elected to FBA Board

At the February meeting of the Foggy Bottom Association, Thalia Johnson was elected to the Executive Board, to complete the term of the late Olga Corey.

Thalia has lived in Foggy Bottom since 1983, residing in Potomac Plaza at New Hampshire and Virginia Avenues.

She is a native of Kentucky and during her working career, both here and in Dayton, Ohio, she was employed by the U. S. Air Force and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, involved in civilian personnel matters.

She has been a "regular" at all the zoning hearings—on the Campus Plan, the IMF and the Elliott School—and rarely misses an ANC, FBA or other community meeting.

#### **PSA Mailboxes Set**

The Second District of the Metropolitan Police is establishing voice mailboxes for its Police Service Areas to assist residents in reaching the officers who patrol and are responsible for their areas. According to Lt. David Hutchinson who heads PSA 207, their orders are to access these mailboxes daily; in the past calls to their offices were frustrating when they were "on the street" and no one answered.

There is a mailbox for each PSA for general inquiries/comments, and each lieutenant has one as well, as follows:

For **PSA 207**, from Rock Creek Parkway to 22nd Street, **999-5376** 

For **PSA 208**, from 22nd to 17th Streets, **999-5375** 

The mailbox for Lt. David Hutchinson of PSA 207, 999-5426

And for Lt. Phillip Lanciano of PSA 208, 999-5425.

You may wish to make a note of these numbers for contacting your police officers.

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#### **FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS**

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the editor and writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

Editor
Ad Manager
Contributors

Doug Abbey, Monika Bernstein, Marifran Langvardt,
Jim McLeod, Kate McLeod

To place ads, call Rita Champagne at 293-1439. Cost for classified ads 60 cents per word; a 2-inch high by 2-column wide ad—the smallest available, is \$38.50.

May issue: to be distributed April 26-27 Copy deadline: April 11; camera-ready: April 18

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## **Lighted Boats Parade on April 6**

Carolyn Crouch, who conducts Washington Walks (including one of Foggy Bottom), has scheduled one for the waterfront area just prior to the National Cherry Blossom Festival's Parade of Lighted Boats. During this event, the Southwest waterfront's Washington Channel comes alive with a flotilla of brightly-lit boats cruising quietly through the water in a glittering parade. Sponsored by the Washington Waterfront Association, the Parade of Lighted Boats is literally a Festival highlight.

This year Washington Walks will offer a walking tour of the Southwest water-

front immediately prior to the Parade. Home to the Titanic Memorial, the city's oldest row of houses, a marina and colorful fish market, Southwest pre-dates the founding of the District of Columbia and has been home to a diverse community including wealthy speculators, free blacks and European immigrants. The walk will conclude along the waterfront promenade, where the parade can best be viewed.

The walk is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, at 6:00 p.m., and participants will meet at the Waterfront Metrorail Station on Metrorail's Green Line. The cost is \$10 for adults; \$5 for children under 12. Contact 484-1565 or washingtonwalks.com.



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#### **New Fitness Program Planned**

Richard Pollin, Foggy Bottom resident and assistant professor of physical therapy at GWU, is developing a new and innovative program designed to facilitate health promotion and wellness among local residents.

This program is designed to improve daily function and independence through fitness training, exercise activities, and health education. Participants will receive an individualized evaluation and exercise prescription for specific fitness goals. Exercise sessions will be conducted in small groups and will be supervised and monitored by a licensed physical therapist. An accompanying wellness lecture series will be open to participants and family members free of charge. This program is also designed to allow enthusiastic physical therapy students to interact with program participants.

To be eligible for this program, participants may be healthy older individuals or adults of any age living with a chronic disability such as arthritis, stroke, diabetes or balance disturbances. Individuals with more complex diagnoses may also be eligible. Research has indicated that regular, closely-monitored exercise programs are beneficial for increasing strength, flexibility and endurance.

For further info, interested individuals may contact Dr. Pollin at 496-8375 or via e-mail at hsprcp@gwumc.edu. He will also be at the March 25 FBA meeting to discuss his program.

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Dan Tangherlini

#### **Melrose Restaurant to** Offer Passover Dinner

The Melrose Restaurant at 1201 24th Street plans to offer a Passover dinner for the general public. A five-course meal, from Matzoh ball soup to a flourless chocolate cake with orange, will be offered beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27. Ingredients for the traditional Seder plate will be provided, but guests must supply their own prayer books. Reservations are advised (419-6755); cost is \$65 per person.

## **DDOT Head to Address FBA** Meeting

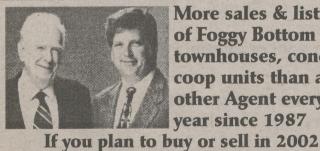
Dan Tangherlini, Acting Director of the District Division of Transportation, will be the featured speaker at the Foggy Bottom Association meeting on Monday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m. It is scheduled for the Melrose Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., in Potomac I&II.

The DDOT official "made news" in Foggy Bottom when his division placed a construction staging area on the parkland at 27th & K Streets, N.W. After some months of urging and with the help of Councilmember Jack Evans, the project, to repair utilities and streets in Georgetown, was relocated to a Park Service lot in lower Georgetown.

The D.C. City Council on March 5 approved legislation to remove the Division of Transportation from the Department of Public Works and make it a department with cabinet status. The new department will deal with all transportation issues such as street and sidewalk repair and construction, traffic management (signals, etc.), parking policy, and tree management. The legislation also called for the appointment of officers to conduct "ward-by-ward assessments of the transportation infrastructure" of the city.

Tangerhlini has held his present post since May 2000, following service as chief financial officer for the Metropolitan Police, in the executive office of the Mayor, at the U. S. Department of Transportation and the Office of Management and Budget. An MBA graduate of The Wharton School, he earned his B.A. and M.P.P. from the University of Chicago. He lives on Capitol Hill with his wife and two children. It is expected that Mayor Williams will nominate him as permanent director of the new department.





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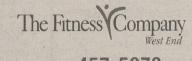
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#### Memories of Edna M. Noland

By Rita V. Champagne

I first heard of Mrs. Noland in 1968! At that time, a friend Dan was renting a room in her house, and he oftentimes mentioned her name. I was living at the Riverside Towers then, and I could look over my balcony and see the backyard area of my neighbor below, never knowing that this was were she lived.

My friendship with Mrs. Noland didn't begin until 1996! When Dan, now retired and living in Pennsylvania, had not received his usual Christmas card from Mrs. Noland, he asked me if I would check to see what might have happened to her. Knowing that she was quite elderly, I wondered what information my telephone call would bring. I was both delighted and relieved to hear a coherent voice. Without hesitation, she assured me that she did, in fact, remember Mr. Shannon, as she referred to him. A few weeks later at a cook-out at St. Mary's Court, I finally met the legendary Mrs. Noland!

Mrs. Noland was a rather quiet, serious-minded and private person, kind, strong-willed and very independent. I once told her that she reminded me of the heroine Odabella in Verdi's opera "Attila"! Her life was her home, her family—a daughter, two grandchildren and six great grandchildren-and her work. Her house was very neat and tidy, and her refrigerator and cabinets well stocked. Her front yard, with beautiful flowers and herbs, was always nicely manicured and admired by many who passed by daily. Knowing that I enjoyed flowers, oftentimes she would clip a beautiful rose for me to take back to my apartment.

Mrs. Noland was born on August 4, 1910, of Italian parents, in a house on 22nd Street near Pennsylvania Avenue where her father delivered ice with a horsedrawn cart. She married, had one daughter, Joanna, while still living in that same house. Later, when the GWU Hospital was to be built, it meant that Mrs. Noland (now divorced), her mother and her daughter had to find a home elsewhere. All they could afford at that time was a small townhouse at the other end of 22nd Street, nearer to Virginia Avenue, an area Mrs. Noland described as rundown! After her mother died, she continued to live in this house for more than 50 years. She had various jobs at the Yale Laundry Company on New York Avenue, working herself up to being the bookkeeper. She retired at the age of 74.

Mrs. Noland was very special to me. We shared many of the same interests: cooking,



characteristics and mannerspent many days visiting together, going to head-to-toe medwasn't accustomed to this, but later seemed to enjoy the extra attention.

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flowers, home and Foggy Bottom, and had some of the same traits. Then, too, many of her isms—good and bad—reminded me of my own mother, who had died in 1987. She even had a sweater, identical in color and design, to one my mother had. We ical appointments, sightseeing and eating together. Mrs. Noland loved to eat! When I groceryshopped for her, I knew better than to pick up any of that lowfat stuff. We shared many meals when I would usually bring the main entree and dessert. She would set the table, make the salad, and mix the oil and vinegar. We worked quite nicely together in the kitchen. Sometimes I would tease her by not revealing what I had made for our meal, but like me, she liked everything, except salmon! Holidays called for a special meal with special placemats and napkins. Although it was her home, I always insisted on serving her first. She

At times I would suggest we do or see something new. And she delighted in these little excursions. Once it was a visit to and lunch at the Corcoran Gallery where the Chihuly glass pieces were on display. Other times it was to see the various monuments and Union Station. One day that I remember as so special was our visit to the Georgetown Mall. I can still see how her face lit up when we visited the Toy Store, and I immediately saw "the child" in her when we came to the dolls. She was also amazed at the huge stuffed animals! When I told her that one such toy cost \$300, her comment was "WHO would spend that much money for a toy?" Then it was on to the Bead Shop, the Tie Shop. She was fascinated by it all and later she thought Clyde's was a delightful place to eat! Once home, she told me how much she

had enjoyed that day! I was pleased Mrs. Noland came to my apartment six times-twice for Christmas parties. In 1998, when I was redoing my apartment, many of our conversations were of decorating ideas, fabric samples and carpet suggestions. I knew that she was eager to see the changes, but walking was more difficult for her after a fall in which she had broken her hip. She was all smiles when I arranged for a male friend to drive her. She was delighted to see that the cup and saucer she had given to me from her own china cabinet was prominently displayed. This visit was her last one.

Mrs. Noland's life was quite routine and she liked it that way. But in the latter part of 2001, her life was anything but that. She saw her neighborhood—as she had known it for years-shrinking. Domenica Morisi, a longtime neighbor, was now in a nursing home; Mrs. Kunsack had died tragically in a house fire; and other longtime friends Geno, Eddie and Yolanda Ratti had sold their house and were moving away. Now, all that was left of this closely-knit group were Lucille Molinelli and Hazel Hanback. At this time, I was about to leave for a month's trip to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. I had been on a trip when she broke her hip in 1997 and was still in the intensive care unit when I returned. I wondered what I would find on my return this time.

Within a short time after arriving home, I had a call from Mrs. Noland. I was greatly relieved to know she was well, but was surprised to hear that her daughter had just been taken seriously ill. With all her life's experiences, I doubt if anything could have prepared her for this, and our next visit was unlike any we had had before. We sat at the kitchen table for close to four hours, and for the first time I could see the fear in her eyes and hear it in her voice. She wanted so much to help her daughter and yet there wasn't anything she could do. She found it very difficult to face the possibility that her daughter, at 62, might die before she did, and here she was 91. I tried to console her,

and she seemed comforted. When I left that night, she gave me a big hug and said that she was glad I was home. Two days later, on October 21, her daughter died.

People say that losing a child is the saddest thing a parent can experience. I can believe it for in the few weeks that followed I saw Mrs. Noland slipping away as if standing in quicksand. Routine household chores and cooking, which she so enjoyed for years, were harder for her now. I visited her almost daily and she welcomed my help more and more. Now when we shared a meal, she preferred to sit in the living room until the dinner was ready. Toward the end of January, she had fallen twice, and after the second fall she was hospitalized at GW Hospital. Two days later—on January 31, she died in the very same area where she had been born.

A private family funeral was held for her on February 7 and she was buried at the Ft. Lincoln Cemetery. On February 9, family and friends joined in a Memorial Mass at the Newman Center, where Mrs. Noland had been a communicant, followed by a reception at her home.

Some have said that Mrs. Noland was lucky to have had my friendship and help-maybe so, but I am the grateful one, for all those days, wisely spent. She was not too widely known in the Foggy Bottom community, but what's important to me is that I was one of the few who knew her! She lived a full life—born, lived and died-all on 22nd Street!



Join us for our Sunday Champagne Brunch at Jeffrey's at the Watergate Restaurant served every Sunday from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. Variety of Buffet Stations are available for your enjoyment. \$45 per person. Please dial 202.298.4455 for reservation.

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Joint Good Friday Service

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preaching

of Life

Easter Vigil Mass

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Flowering of the Cross

Procession and Sung Mass with Incense, Rev. Richard

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Easter Sunday Masses

Service

celebrant, & Rev. Andrew

German Easter Communion

Martin as celebrant & Rev.

Andrew Sloane preaching

Sung Eucharist with

Solemn Pontifical Mass,

Rt. Rev. Barry Valentine,

presiding, Rt. Rev. Allen Bartlett, Confirmation,

Passion with Holy

German Good Friday

Stations of the Cross

Communion

Communion

Service

#### Pastor Reassigned

Pastor, from page 1 made profound changes and improvements since then. Important among them is a just-completed refurbishing of the church's sanctuary, a needed upgrade in the sound system, and a refit of the church hall's kitchen. During his tenure, benediction and novenas were reintroduced, as well as the devotional votive lamps many Catholics cherish.

His letter in the church bulletin, in which he announced the change, welcomed the opportunity offered by Cardinal McCarrick, but admitted "it is very difficult" to leave, and acknowledged his appreciation for the people of the parish who brought him "a deeper appreciation for them and for the Lord's presence in our parish."

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Foggy Bottom Hist. Dist



#### Easter/Holy Week Services Set

Holy Week and Easter are being marked by a variety of services in the churches located in Foggy Bottom. Their schedules are printed here for your convenience; the addresses and phone numbers are at the end of the list.

numbers are	at the end of the list.	
Palm Sund	ay, March 24	
St. Mary		The Blessing of the Palms & Low Mass, Rite I
	10:00 a.m.	The Blessing of the Palms (at St. Mary's Court)
	11:00 a.m.	The Liturgy of the Palms and Sung Eucharist, Rite II
St. Paul	7:30 a.m.	Blessing of Palms and Low Mass
	8:45 a.m.	Liturgy of the Palms at Washington Circle Procession and Solemn Mass
	11:15 a.m.	Liturgy of the Palms at Washington Circle Procession and Solemn High Mass; Music of Byrd and Monteverdi
	6:00 p.m.	Solemn Evensong and Benediction; Music of Byrd and Allegri
St. Stephen	5:30 p.m. (Sat.)	Vigil Mass
	9:00 & 11:00 a.m.,	Palm Sunday Masses

1:00 & 5:30 p.m.
United 11:00 a.m. English Palm Sunday Service
Holy Wednesday, March 27
St. Paul 8:00 p.m. Tenebrae
Holy/Maundy Thursday, March 28
St. Mary 7:30 p.m. Solemn Eucharist of the
Institution; Watch before the

St. Paul 6:30 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Day;
Watch before the Altar of Repose
St. Stephen 12:10 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass
8:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper
United 7:00 p.m. English Service of

Western 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29

St. Mary 12:00 noon

St. Paul 12:00 noon

6:30 p.m. St. Stephen 12:10 & 2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. The Last Supper
Tenebrae Communion

Solemn Liturgy of the Day
The Three Hour Devotion;
The Rev. Tony Lewis,
Professor of New
Testament, Virginia
Theological Seminary
The Liturgy of Good Friday
Stations of the Cross
Celebration of the Lord's

5:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

United 12:00 noon

1:00 p.m. 12:00 noon

Holy Saturday, March 30 St. Paul 9:00 p.m.

St. Stephen 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31
St. Mary 8:00 a.m.

St. Paul 9:00 a.m.

11:15 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

St. Stephen 9:00 & 11:00 a.m., 1:00 & 5:30 p.m.

United 9:30 a.m. ll:00 a.m.

Western 8:30 a.m. English Easter Service
Worship Down By the River
Easter Worship

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 728 23rd Street, N.W. 333-3985 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2430 K Street, N.W. 337-2020 St. Stephen Martyr Catholic Church, 2436 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. 785-0983 The United Church, 1920 G Street, N.W. 331-1495

Western Presbyterian Church, 2401 Virginia Avenue, N.W. 835-8383



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#### **Court Decides Hospital Case**

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#### Should the BZA Have Waited for an EIS?

The FBA argued that the BZA should have postponed its decision on GWU's application for a special exception until after the Department of Health had considered whether an EIS was required. The FBA argued an EIS would have been enormously helpful to the BZA as it considered the noise, traffic and related questions that it was obliged to consider in this special exception case. The court said it need not consider the merits of this argument because the Department of Health ultimately ruled that no EIS was needed, even though the Department said there was no remaining "air margin" in the 23rd Street corridor just south of Washington Circle.

The court did not decide whether the BZA erred in failing to wait for an EIS review before granting the special exception because, they said, such an error in this case was harmless given the subsequent decision that no EIS was needed. Cornish F. Hitchcock, who represented the FBA in this appeal, noted that this question about EISs will occur in future cases and that it would have been helpful for the court to have given some guidance in resolving this question.

ANC-2A Chair Elizabeth Elliott had expressed concern about the cumulative environmental impact of development in the area. "Developers exploit the fact that the environmental impact statement is not under the purview of the BZA or Zoning Commission. We have had three major buildings go up in the area—the hospital, Red Cross and the Elliott School—without an EIS. The D.C. Environmental Protection Act is meaningless unless the city is going to enforce it."

## Was There Substantial Evidence to Support the BZA's Decision?

The FBA asserted that the conditions attached to the BZA's approval of the special exception are unenforceable, and therefore that the BZA's conclusions based on those conditions do not satisfy the requirement that the BZA's decision be based on substantial evidence. The court found that the conditions attached to the special exception are based on the recommendations made by the Department of Public Works (DPW) to mitigate some of the negative aspects of GWU's original proposal, and that there is factual support for those recommendations.

The court said that if the hospital systematically or persistently fails to limit the 32-daily truck deliveries to the hours specified, such behavior can be brought to the attention of authorities when the hospital seeks to renew its occupancy permit. As for the loading dock facing Historic Foggy Bottom not being fully buffered by landscaping, the court found that the BZA was not obliged to reduce to zero any adverse visual impact.

Flashing lights and a wider sidewalk were suggested for the other side of the building as a warning because DPW noted there are "slightly more potential pedestrian/vehicular conflicts" on the sidewalk crossing the hospital's ambulance entrance and the main entrance and exit for other vehicles. Testimony was presented at the BZA hearings that more than 1000 persons per hour use that sidewalk during rush hour.

## Did the BZA Give Great Weight to the ANC's Views?

Quoting from the BZA order, the court found that the ANC's views were given the "great weight" that the law re-

Flaws Need Correcting

from page 1 equip

That's not all. I visited the site myself on the morning of February 14 and here is what I found. The work on-site permits—Public Space (Excavation) Permits B544042 and Building Permits B438480 (After Hours Weekday) and B438481 (After Hours Sunday)—were issued for excavation work at "M Street between Key Bridge and 28th Street." There were five irregularities with these.

First and second, the underlying permit was issued by Public Space (Excavation), whose permits cover only *underground work* on *public spaces*, e.g., roads, alleys, and sidewalks. The property in question is *parkland* and clearly not public space and the work going on there is clearly not *underground*.

Third, the staging area at 27th and K Streets is clearly located outside of the permitted area.

Fourth, the two "after hours" permits clearly state that "if noise from mechanical

equipment will exceed 60db, at the property line, contact the DCRA." Clearly, the noise level from mechanical equipment exceeds 98db (backup beepers from trucks) and sometimes reaches 140db (lumber and pipes banging to the ground) during the night. (I contacted DCRA but they could do nothing despite the caveat on the permit.)

Fifth, the permits for the after-hours work expired November 2, 2001.

What concerns me most is that the Metropolitan Police were called and visited the site at night numerous times and for some still-unexplained reason, despite the blatant irregularities of permits, were unable to shut down that illegal operation.

At least one important phase of righting that wrong is now over. But none of us has any idea as to when the more important phase—correcting the flaws in our government that permitted this to happen—will be fixed.

quires. The BZA order declared that "[t]he Board accorded ANC 2-A the 'great weight' to which it is entitled. In doing so, the BZA fully credited the unique vantage point that ANC 2-A holds with respect to the impact of the proposed hospital upon the ANC's constituents." The court said that the BZA addressed the issues and concerns raised by the ANC, which echoed the issues and concerns raised by the FBA.

"All that the law demands is that the views of the ANC be specifically addressed, and not ignored or overlooked, in the BZA's decision," the court said in finding that the BZA gave ANC-2A the great weight it was entitled to. The court noted that the statute governing ANCs was extensively amended in 2000, after the BZA issued its order in this case, and that the section about "great weight" was completely rewritten. The court expressed no view as to the effect that this statutory change might have on this case if it had been applicable before the BZA's decision.

#### What's Next?

The new hospital is expected to open for tours in June 2002 and to admit its first patient in August. The Hippocratic standard of "do no harm" was not applied to the building at issue in FBA v. BZA, but the doctors who move across the street to practice in the new hospital will continue to apply this high standard in their work.

#### Foggy Bottom Folks

Foggy Bottom residents Michael and Marianne Buckley announce the birth of their son Quinn Sebastian Buckley, born February 27 at GWU Hospital. He weighed 9 lbs. and 1 ounce. Quinn, his older sister, two-year-old Caitlin, and their parents are doing well. They live in the 1100 block of 25th Street.

Lou Hennessy has moved from the neighborhood to Thomas House on Massachusetts Avenue. She had lived in the Excelsior on K Street for many years, and was active in the West End Library Friends. No doubt we will see her back here from time to time, perhaps to sample the fare at Marshall's on L Street, one of her favorite haunts.

Incidentally, Tony and Joseph, our friends at Marshall's, are pleased to have provided a lot of food for the folks involved with the new Latter Day Saints' facility adjacent to their establishment. While they know their neighbors will not be lining the bar, they are happy to have the building finished and new neighbors right next door.

One of the intrepid FB-News paperpersons, **Kate Clinton**, who lives on 23rd Street, has completed her contract with the Phillips Gallery and is now with the Aspen Institute. 'Tween jobs, she took herself off to London, attracted by the city and by a special low airfare. Wasn't that great timing?

'Taint fair! Our good neighbor and pets-of-all-kind expert, Claire Ciftci, was happily back at work after a newhip operation. It was good to see her walking various canines without pain. Then, out of the blue, another malady laid her low again, and she is currently patiently awaiting its demise. Surely it's not fair!





#### My Neighborhood Beat

By Monika Bernstein

When I moved to Foggy Bottom 21 years ago, I owned among other things a car which I jettisoned/sold after a few years since every place I needed/wanted to go was easily accessible on foot or by Metro. And thus I started exploring and getting to know my neighborhood and discovered many fun and unusual people and places in the process.

One of my favorites was and is Jewelers' Werk Galerie at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue. It's a tiny place tucked in between Tower Records and a watch repair shop and across from Vaccaro's, purveyors of fine Italian pastries and strong coffee. The Galerie was founded in 1984 as "VO Galerie" by Joke van Ommen, a Dutch jewelry artist who was married to an American musician living in Washington. Tragically, she was killed in a car accident in 1988 at which time Ellen Reiben, the current owner and director, took over the Galerie which she renamed Jewelers' Werk—a coinage neatly addressing the American-European origins of the Galerie.

Ellen was born and raised in New York State. She attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison and received her MFA from the Rochester Institute of Technology, School for American Craftsmen (Jewelry). After getting married in 1973, Ellen and her husband moved to Washington where she worked in a private jewelry studio. In addition to her extensive background in jewelry design, Ellen exercised her attention to detail and training for design work on exhibition installations and window displays for other D.C. galleries and stores as well as theatre productions. She keeps her eye and aesthetics sharp by variously attending jewelry design shows in Munich, Berlin, Am-



venues in addition to exhibiting at a major trade show in New York City every summer. Periodically, the Galerie showcases artists/jewelers at special exhibits; Karen Pontoppidian of Germany is currently exhibiting her latest creations at the Galerie.

Ellen is often amazed at how neighborhood folks don't seem to know about Jewelers' Werk while people from all over the world make it a point to stop and check out the latest in jewelry design whenever they find themselves in D.C. In fact, a website is being contemplated to make the Galerie more accessible to its far-flung customer base who now have to call or fax in their questions or requests. When queried about the price of an item, Ellen tries to educate browsers and customers alike and has been known to explain patiently that "when someone buys a painting, they are not buying the canvas and the paint but rather the artist's vision-ditto for jewelry." It must work since the Galerie has developed a devoted following through the years.

I for one look forward to checking out the wares in the windows at Jewelers' Werk whenever I find myself strolling through the 2000 Penn mall—not just the pieces themselves but also the way they are displayed. And if I get weak in the knees from too much walking or the temptations beckoning at me through the windows, I can always turn around and stop at Vaccaro's for a welcome, sweet pick-mewhile contemplating sterdam and other European whether "to buy or not to buy."

## Update

#### **Zoning Commission** Hears Two **FB** Cases

On Monday, the D.C. Zoning Commission gave conditional approval to two buildings located in Foggy Bottom, the IMF building at 1900 Pennsylvania Avenue and GWU's Elliott School at 1957

In the ruling on the IMF building, amenities and security were in the forefront. Commissioner Anthony Hood voted against the approval on the grounds that not enough emphasis had been placed on protecting nearby residents during demonstrations against the international agency. Various amenities proffered by the IMF were questioned as to the validity and value, such as whether security for the building itself is an amenity to neighborhood and whether employees at the building added an economic benefit. Final action may be taken at the Commission's April meeting.

A decision on GWU's Elliott School building was deferred, and the Commission requested a proffer of substantial amenities from GWU. Several commissioners felt those offered to date were not adequate. (For example, GWU contended that their having to conform to minority-hiring requirements was an amenity when in fact it is required of buildings built with D.C. revenue bond funds.) ANC-2A has opposed GWU's plans to use the building for academic purposes as well as student housing, when it was originally slated in the Planned Unit Development application by its former owners for permanent residents. It also is deemed by neighbors as another example of expansion outside the campus boundaries.

#### **WG** Gallery **Exhibits** Rothermel

"Desert Departures" is the title of an exhibit of the work of David Rothermel opening on Friday, April 19, at the Watergate Gallery at 2552 Virginia Avenue, N.W. The show, to run until May 25, will show Rothermel's "lyrical southwest desert landscapes," known for their large formats of billowing clouds with low mountainous horizons. To accommodate the intimate size of the gallery, Rothermel has chosen to do a special series of small oil paintings and wa-

The artist is a graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and he attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in

An opening reception will be held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on April 19. The gallery is open weekdays from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and on Saturday until 4:00 p.m.

#### **SUPPORT** OUR **ADVERTISERS**

#### Evans on 27th & K

from page 1

ity. Although expressing reservations, there was a willingness to discuss this proposal. I then contacted John Parsons from the National Park Service and he agreed to allow the trucks to park at the Waterfront Park.

With the agreement of the Waterfront Commission and the Park Service, a lease was negotiated including \$500,000 payment to help renovate the park once the Georgetown Project was completed and the staging was dis-

DDOT has committed to estoring the 27th Street Park On February 7, I convened a meeting of your neighbors to discuss the future of the parkland. The residents at the meeting agreed the park's grass and trees should be replanted.

The District's planting season has started and continues through April and I expect to see the restoration within this period.

#### **Recent Sales of Foggy Bottom/West End Residential Properties**

Address	Building Name	Unit	Sale Price	Description		
2030 F Street	Letterman House	1005	\$99,000	Efficiency		
2401 H Street	Bonwit Plaza	609	\$155,000	1 BR		
900 24th Street	Foggy Bottom Mews		\$435,000	3 BR		
900 24th Street	Foggy Bottom Mews		\$435,000	3 BR		
730 24th Street	Poto. Plaza Terraces	803	\$169,500	1 BR		
2141 Eye Street	President	312	\$73,000	Efficiency		
2515 K Street	Bader	601	\$176,500	1 BR		
700 NH Avenue	Watergate	509	\$325,000	2 BR		
700 NH Avenue	Watergate	1507/8	\$1,095,000	3 BR		
12 Snows Court			\$219,900	2 BR		
522 21st Street	Monroe House	710	\$95,000	Efficiency		
2700 Va. Avenue	Watergate	910	\$340,000	2 BR		
Source: Metropolitan Regional Information Systems, Inc. Courtesy of Pardoe & Graham Real Estate.						

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#### 2000 Census Changes FB/WE Demographics

You may remember that in February 1999, we ran an article on the demographics of those who live in the U.S. Postal Service zip code 20037. Since then, some figures from the 2000 U.S. Census have become available. Thanks to these and other demographic data provided by ESRI Business Information Solutions (formerly a division of CACI, Inc.), and data from some local sources, we have some new statistical answers to the question: What kind of people live in our neighborhood?

#### Population Up and Median Age Down

There has been a 38 percent increase in population: from 9,295 in 1990 to 12,832 in 2000. During this period, the median age in our area dropped from 36.7 to 27.2 years old. The biggest increase occurred in those from 15 to 24 years of age: up from 23.9 percent to 43.4 percent. The only other increase in any age group was for those more than 85 (up from 1.7 to 2 %).

When George Washington University Hospital became owned by a limited partnership, its zip code changed to 20037. The 1070 babies delivered at GWU Hospital in 2001, added to those delivered at Columbia Hospital for Women, make our neighborhood a place many call their birthplace. While the trend may be changing, most of those born in the area grow up elsewhere; those 15 years of age or younger still represent less than 2 percent of our population. Of the 325 students who attend Stevens Elementary, 20 percent (a slight increase from 1998) live within the school's boundaries.

#### **Race Changes Slight**

From 1990 to 2000 there has been an increase in the

By Jim and Kate McLeod percentage of Asian/Pacific Islanders (5.9 to 11%) and blacks (6.0 to 7.1%), a slight reduction in percentage of whites (86.6 to 78.1%), and no, or almost no, change in the percentage of American Indians (0.3 to 0.3%), other races (1.1 to 1.2%), or those of Hispanic origins regardless of (5.7 to 5.6%).

#### **Families Drop But May Rise**

While the number of families in our zip code dropped from 1990 to 2000 (1041 down to 1033, respectively), the future trend may be different. From 2001 to 2006, ESRI predicts a nearly 4 percent increase in families in the neighborhood. Such a change would represent a rate four times higher than the projected rate for the city and the nation. While the newest member of a family in 20037, Quinn Sebastian Buckley, born February 27, 2002, was not available to comment, his father, Michael Buckley, offered the following assessment of family life in Foggy Bottom. He and the others in his family of four find life here to be exciting and vibrant. He reported you don't have to load kids into a car to go anywhere—parks, the Francis pool, restaurants and the Mall are all within walking distance, as is good health care.

When they moved to 1100 block of 25th Street in 1998, there were no children on the block, now there are three. Michael noted that living close to work (a 15-minute commute to the AFL-CIO in downtown D.C.), helps him meet the demands of both work and parenthood. He and his wife, Marianne, who is active in community affairs, including being a member of the neighborhood sign committee, find Foggy Bottom to be a good place to raise a family. A G.W.U. student in the neighborhood serves as a baby sitter.

#### **Housing Can Be** A Challenge

Michael noted that finding affordable housing in the area for a family with multiple children can be a challenge. According to real estate agent Tom Murphy, who has been selling housing in Foggy Bottom since 1982, a twobedroom/one-bath home in the area would range from \$205,000 to \$299,000, and from \$230,000 to \$500,000, for two bedrooms with two baths. The monthly rental rates would be from \$2,300 to \$3,500. These price ranges are for two-bedroom homes less than 13,000 square feet in size.

There has been an increase in the number of households in the area, from 6,244 in 1990 to 7,087 in 2000, but the average household size has remained about the same (1.35 and 1.37, respectively). The percentage of housing units owned (34.4) and 30.9, respectively) and rented (65.6 and 69.1) has not changed significantly from 1990 to 2000.

#### **Politics Constant**; **Voter Numbers Fall**

Neither our neighborhood boundaries, nor our voter precincts correspond exactly with zip code 20037 boundaries, but if you look at the political affiliation of the 4,585 persons registered to vote (as of Dec. 2001) at one of the three polling places in our Advisory Neighborhood Commission boundaries, you will find that 53.9 percent are Democrats, 25.2 are Independents, 20.0 percent are Republicans, 0.5 percent are Statehood Green Party members, and 0.3 belong to some other party. We have a higher percentage of Independents and Republicans than the averages for the city -14.5 and 7.6 are the respective citywide percentages. While these percentages for our area have not changed significantly since December 1998, in the past three years there has been a 7.5 percent drop in the number of persons on the voter rolls (down from 4,956).

## Neighborhood Datebook

Monday, March 25: Foggy Bottom Association meeting, with featured speaker Dan Tangherlini, Acting Director, D.C. Division of Transportation. Melrose Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. 7:30 p.m. All residents welcome.\*

Friday, April 5: Opening of "North/South: East Coast Islands: Photographs by Barbara Southworth" and "Diane Lang Kelly: Sculptural Stoneware Vessels" at the Washington Arts Club, 2017 I Street, N.W. Contact: 331-7282. Both shows will run through April 27. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday until 2:00 p.m. Contact: 331-7282. Opening reception from 6:30-8:30 p.m.\*

Saturday, April 6: 26th Street Park Planting & Cleanup Day. Volunteers should bring gloves, rakes, brooms, shovels and garden implements. Cleanup followed by refreshments and fellowship. Call 337-3731 to sign up. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (Rain date: Monday, April 8, 5:00-7:00 p.m.)

Saturday, April 6: Washington Walks, which will conduct weekly tours of Foggy Bottom starting in June, will offer a walking tour of the Southwest waterfront immediately prior to the National Cherry Blossom Festival's Parade of Lighted Boats. Meet at the Waterfront Metrorail Station (Green Line). Contact: 484-1565. \$10; \$5 for 12 and under. 6:00 p.m.\*

Tuesday, April 9: Concert by classical Indian singer Esha Bandopadhyay and sitar player Parha Bose, accompanied on tabla by Mayookh Bhaumik. IFC Auditorium, 2121 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (enter at 21st & K). 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 11-Sunday, April 14: "One Flea Space," presented by the GWU Department of Theatre and Dance. Marvin Center Theater, 800 21st Street, N.W. (enter on H Street). Contact: 994-6178. \$10; students & seniors, \$8. 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Friday, April 12: "Thank God It's Friday," featuring Jane Holmes Dixon, Episcopal Bishop of Washington Pro Tem. Grace Church, 1041 Wisconsin Avenue. Contact: 333-7100. 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Friday, April 12: The new facility for the Washington operations for the Latter Day Saints will hold an open house at its new facility at 2520 L Street, N.W. 7:00-9:00 p.m.\*

Wednesday, April 17: Foggy Bottom/West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A meeting. Contact: 736-1775. 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 19: Opening of an exhibit entitled "Desert Departures," featuring the paintings of David Rothermel of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Watergate Gallery, 2552 Virginia Avenue, N.W. Contact: 338-4488. Gallery hours: Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Saturday until 4:00 p.m. Reception from 6:00-9:00 p.m.\*

\*See article on this listing elsewhere in this issue.

the 2000 census will be released in the future. We wish to thank Paula M.

More detailed data from Laborce of ESRI Business Information Solutions for supplying the data for this article.

#### CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Kenmore refrigerator/dishwasher. Contact C. Miller, 202-338-6389.



